Oklahoma Chess Monthly

DECEMBER 2016

Chess News and Chess History for Oklahoma

Steve Wharry

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Steve Wharry 1955-2016

Chess for Others

The chess community experienced a huge loss with the passing of Steve Wharry on August 1. His long struggle with cancer went well into the endgame before he had to tip his King.

You would be hard pressed to find any player as popular as Steve, any organizer as prolific, or any person as active with hobbies and Christian generosity. After a nomadic childhood in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, he ended up at Northwestern University in Illinois, where he earned a doctorate in chemistry. He landed a job with Phillips Petroleum in Bartlesville as an analytical chemist in their labs, and spent his entire career there. He was an expert in petroleum-based products, especially polymers and polyethylene, on which he published a lot of significant research.

Analytical chemistry — does that remind you of analyzing chess? The two had a lot in common, Steve told me. Eventually he was in charge of the lab. His work involved "figuring out what

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stuff was," which he described as a chess-like puzzle in some ways. Workers from the oilfields would come in with a sample of some gunk and ask him, "What is this stuff?" He would run tests and figure out what was in it, whether it was dangerous or flammable, and how to handle it. This allowed the workers in the field to deal with it safely in a variety of situations.

Stephen Mark Wharry

After settling in Bartlesville, he found time to pursue his many hobbies, which included programming, biking, running, climbing, bowling — and chess. He had learned chess from his father at a young age but didn't take it up until college, and he didn't play in tournaments until he was an adult. Despite this late start, he eventually reached a solid Class A level of play and peaked with an Expert rating.

Although he loved to play in tournaments, he seemed to love organizing them even more. This was due to his well-known generosity, which came out in all aspects of his life. He was charitable to people but never wanted any thanks. In fact, he would avoid recognition of a good deed whenever possible. I know of several times, even in his final days, when his thoughts were for other people and he did something very generous but asked those who knew about it to keep it quiet.

It's no surprise, therefore, that he was active in church in the latter decades of his life. Steve's wife Debbie also says he was a fine singer with a booming voice. This was yet another hobby he developed while being active in the church choir. His religious life included far-flung missionary work. For example he went on a mission to Estonia, in Eastern Europe. He probably would have not mentioned that experience to any of us at all were it not for the fact that he could not resist showing us how important the great chess champion Paul Keres still is in Estonia. Steve always carried in his wallet an Estonian 5-krooni bill featuring a portrait of Keres, and loved to get it out to show people and exclaim, "Can you believe they have a chess player on their money!?"

Estonia's 5-krooni bill featuring GM Paul Keres

Other examples of Steve's generosity to chess were his work with scholastic chess in the Bartlesville area (long before the current scholastic organizations came around), leading the OCA for many years as president, and directing a prolific amount of tournaments. He also held a charity event that was covered in Chess Life magazine.

But there were three particular events Steve sponsored of which I'd like to make special note. For over 25 years he organized the Phillips 66 Chess Classic at the classic Hotel Phillips in Bartlesville, with prizes that guaranteed he would lose money but throw a great party. For the 25th edition, he held the event at Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve (http://www.woolaroc.org) in a meeting room with a panoramic view of that wonderful wild place, right next to the old Phillips lodge

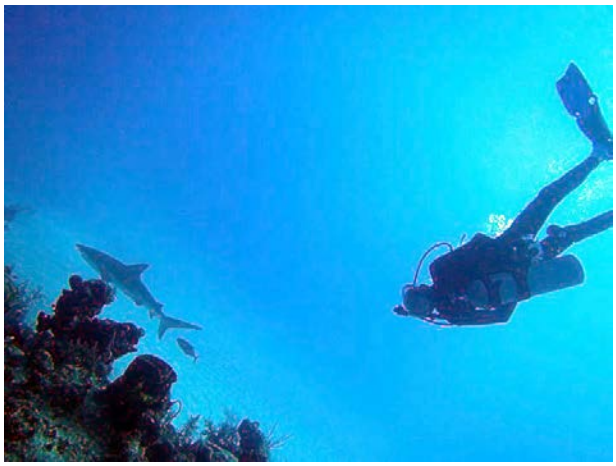
with its strange animal heads, and with fantastic prizes and meals provided. It was easily the most exotic chess location in which I've ever played. Steve was disappointed with the turnout, though. Not because the event lost money, but because he'd hoped more people would come to the party.

Here is the *Chess Life* story on the event at Woolaroc:
https://www.uschess.org/content/view/10223/576

Steve in a favorite activity — handing out prizes, in this case to James Tyner and Howard Zhong.

As a Phillips executive, Steve was a member of the exclusive Frank Phillips Club, an old-fashioned gentlemen's club in downtown B'Ville. Its large gaming room was outfitted for billiards, table tennis, and shuffleboard, and it had a large kitchen with soft drink dispensers at the ready. It was also filled with tables for chess and bridge. Every year, Steve organized a wonderfully fun one-day tournament there, with eight games of rapid chess and lunch provided by the staff. In between rounds you could play shuffleboard or hang out in the lounge. He enjoyed hosting it immensely.

Steve was an avid runner who participated in running events of all kinds. He was also a keen climber of "fourteens" (14,000+ foot mountains), often traveling to Colorado to hike and climb with his brother. Having had some interest in marine biology when he was young, Steve decided to take up scuba diving in 1993, with spectacular vigor. Over the next 23 years he traveled the planet visiting exotic dive sites and the ocean's most beautiful coral reefs, and kept amazing photos of hundreds of exotic fish on his iPad to show you. Even during his illness he continued the hobby (as he continued his tournament chess play and organizing). Just two years ago he spent a week aboard a ship in the Great Barrier Reef diving twice a day. Even last spring, knowing he was already in his final days, he traveled to Fiji for one last underwater



Steve stalks a shark

adventure, thankful for all the wonders he had seen. This last trip, however, took a lot out of him physically as he was sick most of the time. His strength faded. He came home exhausted and noticeably thinner.

Steve also traveled to several national chess tournaments last year. He did very well. At the World Open, he led the U2000 section going into the last round (which unfortunately he lost), getting his rating back up near 2000.

Steve's play was somewhat spotty; he'd pull off an impressive win against an expert in one match, then drop a piece to a lower-rated player in the next. Had he been like most players and concentrated more on his own play, I feel he would have been able to maintain an expert rating most of his chess career. But he spent a lot of the time he had available on chess helping others and organizing stuff for others, and we greatly

benefited from this selflessness.

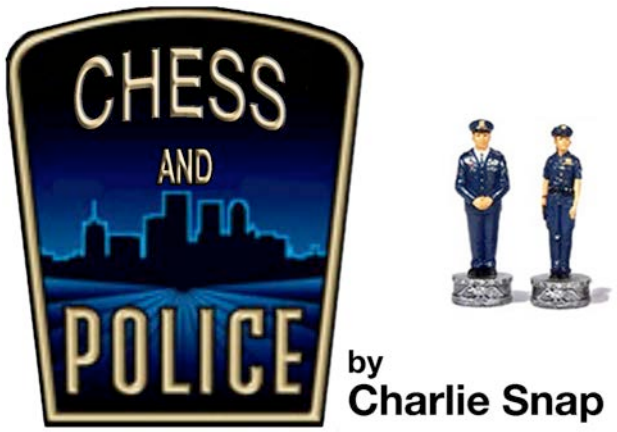
Last March, with his health prognosis not good, Steve nevertheless decided to host one more event. What he came up with was surprising. He organized a "chess ladder" format tournament, to be played at the rate of one round per month for the rest of the year! He rented a nice playing room at the Wyndham Hotel in Tulsa and scheduled nine monthly dates in advance. The entry fee was $50, and the prizes were $50 every time you won a game. Needless to say, the event would lose money, but Steve didn't care. It was another generous occasion. But in this case, perhaps he was designing it this way for himself—hosting an event that would stretch into December might have been an act of hope, or faith that he could make it that far. Perhaps it was even a gesture of defiance, a way to pursue his love for the game to the very last or die trying.

But after three months he was too weak to continue. I had to take over as TD. Even from his hospital bed, he would take great interest in how the tournament was going. He would play over the games and ask me questions about the play. We'd discuss the next round pairings, etc. He died only a few days before the August round of the event, and that was a sad round indeed for all of us. The players agreed to continue the tournament in Steve's memory, and in fact it has produced quite a few interesting and hard-fought games.

The last round the Ladder tournament is December 3, and we'll have a full report in the January issue.)

In September at the 71st OCF Open tournament in Tulsa, director Jim Berry decided to dedicate that event to both Steve Wharry and Frank Berry as a memorial. It is my hope that we will dedicate more OCF-sponsored annual memorial tournaments to them both. Along with Frank Berry and Jerry Spann, Steve Wharry's contributions to Oklahoma chess should be honored. He helped shape the sport here for decades leading up to the current era, and his service to chess should be fondly remembered.

See two of Steve's best games, page 22.



Chess and police work: do they go together? They have a lot more in common than you might think. In my police career, I found that checkmating a king is a little like checkmating a criminal.

My Police and Chess Backgrounds

Many of you do not know that I used to be a police officer for the Tulsa Police Department. I retired in 1996 after 24 years of service. I was then employed by Tulsa Community College for eight years as a campus police officer. Today, I am fully retired due to medical issues.

Charlie Snap

My older cousin taught me how to play chess in the early 1960s, when I was 13 years old. I started beating him and my brother within six months. I obtained chess books from the library, and the study improved my game. I spent a lot of time at a coffee house playing casual games and eventually got involved with

For December 2016

Top 25 Active Oklahoma Players				
	Player	This Month	Change +/-	
1	Advait Patel	2486	0	
2	Daniel Ng	2300	0	
3	Howard Zhong	2229	0	
4	Mark Hulsey	2225	0	
5	Tom Braunlich	2201	0	
6	Tom Amburn	2200	0	
7	Chibuzo C Ilonze	2179	new	▲
8	Sergey Galant	2178	0	
9	Joshua Alexander	2173	0	
10	David Zelnick	2155	10	▲
11	Anthony Paolercio	2130	0	
12	Chuck Johnson	2119	-11	▼
13	Ryan Farell	2089	0	
14	Michael Nugent	2087	0	
15	Tom Patton	2080	0	
16	James Tyner	2074	0	
17	David Luscomb	2068	0	
18	Charles D Unruh	2062	0	
19	Veronika Zilajeva	2059	0	
21	Joe Dean Veal	2033	0	
22	Matt Dalthorp	2024	0	
23	Charles M Unruh	2007	0	
20	Alan Islas	2003	new	▼
24	Ciaran O'Hare	2001	0	
25	Jeff Colbert	1994	11	▲

Player of the Month

Ciaran O'Hare

Oklahoma's correspondence chess Senior International Master this month earned a "GM norm." See News Bites for the story.

the chess club in Tulsa, which then met at the YMCA downtown. My mentor and close friend was Victor McBee *(state champion 1965 and 1967 — TB)*. He helped me develop and mature my skills. The main advice he reinforced was *patience* — he often told me to sit on my hands before making a move. He also told me to avoid making impulsive decisions, advice that would help me in my police work as well as in chess.

I started tournament play in 1965 as a member of the Central High School chess club. My rating ultimately reached the 1700s. Presently it's 1404. Due to my health issues I am not very active in tournaments, other than the 2016 OCF chess ladder in Tulsa, where the pace of one game a month is within my ability to participate.

Chess as a Metaphor for Police Work

In an address to the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) in Lyon, France in 2013, Anatoly Karpov compared chess to investigation work. He stated, "To beat your opponent you need to create a plan, study the game of your opponent, find the way to predict his play, and then create a strategy." I would like to expand the metaphor further, and give some examples from my work.

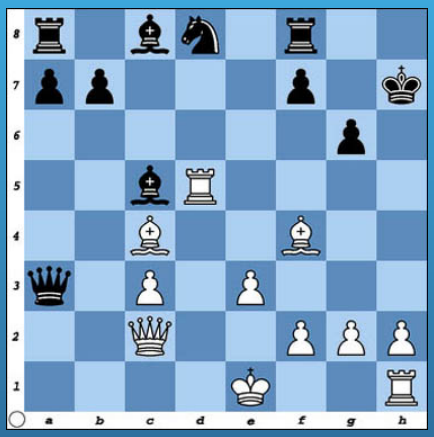
In chess, you have the opening, middlegame, and endgame — each with their own principles and typical moves. It's the same in police work.

The "opening" of an investigation is found in responding to a crime scene. Fast development of the pieces is mirrored by police immediately bringing all their tools to bear on the crime location, quickly collecting clues, and determining the "who, what, where, and how."

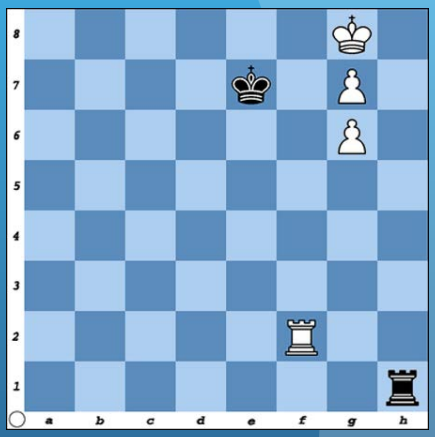
The "middlegame" of an investigation is when investigators attack the mystery of the crime. This phase involves sorting through the evidence, formulating theories, determining motive, finding candidate suspects, interrogating witnesses, and so on until a clear suspect emerges.

PUZZLES

Answers Next Page



White to move and win. (Easy)
Solve this in your mind, without moving the pieces. The moves are straightforward, but the key move isn't until move 3, and thus is not so easy to see.



White to move and win. (Difficult)
You may be aware that this same position without the extra pawn on g6 is an easy win called the "Lucena". Does the extra pawn change things? Can you find the amazing way to win here?

The "endgame" involves pressing the advantages you found during the investigation into an arrest. After that, your goal is either obtaining a confession or using "endgame technique" to compile all the evidence into an airtight legal case against the suspect. It's like winning a pawn-up endgame, but you still have to use good technique — one slip-up, and the suspect could get off. One might say that "Arrest = Check, Conviction = Checkmate, but a Hung Jury = Stalemate."

In police work as in chess, you must have patience during all three phases. Don't prejudge a situation or hurry to conclusions. Collect details, then collect more details to support your findings to the fullest. In most cases, "time pressure" is not a factor.

For example, I once used my patience to obtain key physical evidence during my investigation of an office burglary. I took my time obtaining information about the stolen property, which included two computers. I collected serial numbers and dusted for fingerprints. Unfortunately, I was unable to obtain any readable prints. But the suspect had left his shoe prints on some perforated computer paper that littered the floor. The shoe was a size 10 with a distinct boot design.

A couple of weeks after I submitted the report and turned in the evidence to the property room, I got a phone call from the detective assigned to the case. They had located the burglary suspects during a traffic stop. He told me they had recovered one of the stolen computers and that one of the suspects was wearing the same style boot that had left the print at the crime scene. The detective thanked me for my excellent report, which the police academy went on to use as an example when teaching crime scene report writing.

"Arrest = Check,
Conviction = Checkmate,
but a Hung Jury = Stalemate"
— Charlie Snap

Answers to the Puzzles

(1) 1. Rh5+ Kg7 (not 1…Kg8? 2. Qxg6#) 2. Be5+ f6 and now White targets the newly-weakened g6 square with 3. Rg5! There is not really anything Black can do about the threat of Qxg6+ and mate. The rook is safe as the f-pawn is pinned. The key move of a combination is not always at the start, sometimes it is at the end.

(2) With no pawn on g6 here the Lucena win would be to first check black away so your king can get out by 1. Re2+ Kd7 and now you "build a bridge" with 2. Re4! Next move you will move your king out and when Black tries for perpetual check, your rook can block, like this: 2…Rh3 3. Kf7 Rf3+ 4. Kg6 Rg3+ 5. Kf6 Rf3+ 6. Kg5 Rg3+ 7. Rg4! and the checks are over, the pawn queens. However, here with the pawn on g6 this same line won't work. The pawn blocks the king's path.

But there is another way to build a bridge, taking advantage of the g6 pawn! You start again with 1. Re2+ Kd7 and now the only winning move is 2. Re6! Now white again threatens to move K-f7 and use the rook to block a check on the f-file (i.e. 1… Rh2 2. Kf7 Rf2+ 3. Rf6 wins). And if black captures 2… Kxe6 then 3.Kf8! Rf1+ 4. Ke8 wins because white will queen next move. (Note the g6-pawn blocks attacks from behind by black's rook.) This leaves one other defense: 2… Rf1 and now 3. Rf6!! Rxf6 4. Kh7 and again black can't prevent the queening of the pawn next move.

This case was a good example of why it's important to have patience in the key opening phase of "the game," and to creatively search for clues and evidence as opposed to just going through moves by rote.

In another case, I made an arrest for molestation where the suspect was the stepfather of the 11-year-old victim. On arrival, after determining the elements of the crime, I restrained (handcuffed) the suspect and removed him to another room. My partner interviewed the victim and her mother. I transported the suspect to the police station and prepared for a lengthy interrogation by obtaining these witness statements from the mother and victim. Armed with this solid information — like having pieces well poised for a kingside attack — I wore the suspect down eventually convinced him to tell me everything that happened.

The "endgame" here involved getting the suspect's cooperation, like convincing him to resign the game early rather than play it out all the way to checkmate. I reminded him I wanted to help him, and told him that if he cooperated, we could get help to cure his negative conduct. The suspect accepted a plea bargain, which resulted in a prison sentence that was less than it might have been and included therapy for his aberrant behavior. It was because of my patience and my understanding demeanor that I was able to obtain this important confession and conviction. I received a letter of commendation for my actions.

I don't know if police work makes me a better chess player, but I can definitely say chess made me a better police officer, especially in the investigation area.

Chess and community can connect.

At the Tulsa Police Department I attempted to start a chess club, recognizing the value of the skills that chess hones, but was not successful. I wanted to create a team of police chess players and challenge other departments. I was also intrigued by the idea of a "Con Game" for chess in which police play against prison convicts

"Endgame" — The TV Series

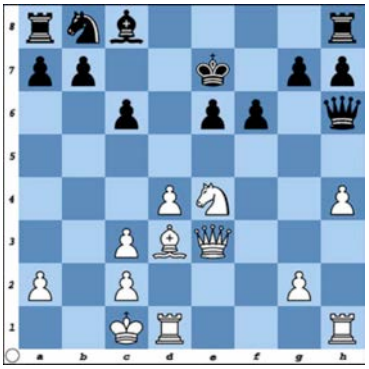
The natural connection between chess and police work has been recognized before. A Canadian TV series called "Endgame" (2011) followed a fictional former world chess champion named Arkady Balagan who became a private investigator who used his chess analytical skills to help the police solve crimes. In the usual stereotypical TV style, the character is portrayed as a flawed genius suffering from debilitating psychological problems. In this case it was agoraphobia, the intense irrational fear of public spaces or crowded areas. This made it nearly impossible for him to leave home. The series only ran for one season (13 episodes), but can now be streamed via Amazon Video or Hulu.

See the interesting video trailer for the series here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCtaUpLx6QA

(as is often done with football). I thought it would be a good PR program, but it never got off the ground as there were not enough good players in the department, and I wasn't getting any support from the higher echelon. To my knowledge I was the only USCF rated player in the TPD at that time.

Here is one of my favorite chess games… with notes by Tom Braunlich…

Snap, Charles (1450) - Wharry,Steve (1900) [D00]
P-66 Bartlesville, OK, 26.03.2000 *[TB]*
1.d4 d5 2.e4
The Blackmar-Diemer Gambit, Charlie's longtime favorite.
2…dxe4 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.f3 exf3 5.Qxf3
[5.Nxf3 is the main line, but the queen capture is the Ryder Gambit, a trappy sideline for those who think the normal gambit is too tame! Entire books have been written about what happens if black captures another pawn on d4…]
5…e6
[5…Qxd4 6.Be3 Qg4 7.Qf2 e5 is claimed by theory to give white insufficient compensation for the gambit, although if you venture this against a well-prepared gambiteer you might still regret it, as there is a large amount of analysis of this variation in theory. On the other hand, note how trappy this line can get. After 5…Qxd4 6.Be3 Qb4 7.0-0-0! Bg4? 8.Nb5! threatening mate 8…Na6 9.Qxb7 Qe4 10.Qxa6 Qxe3+ 11.Kb1 Qc5 12.Qb7 Bxd1 13.Qxa8+ Kd7 14.Nc3+]
6.Bg5 Be7 7.0-0--0 c6
This approach that Steve uses, strong-pointing the d5 square control to prevent a future break there by white, is reasonable, but cramped. White has the two open files on the kingside that can be dangerous comp for the pawn.
8.h4 Qa5 9.Nh3 Nd5? Playing to simplify with some exchanges, but black's king now gets awkwardly placed.
10.Bxe7
White traps the enemy king in the center
10…Nxc3 11.bxc3 Kxe7 12.Ng5!?
[12.Bc4]
12…f6 13.Ne4 Qf5
[Not 13…Qxa2 14.Qg3 Rg8 15.Qd6+ Ke8 16.Bc4! Qxc4 17.Qc7! wins, and was Charlie's nice attacking idea.]
14.Qe3
[14.Qg3! is even stronger. 14…Qg6 *(14…Rg8 15.Qd6+ Ke8 16.Qc7; 14…Rf8 15.Qxg7+ Rf7 16.Qxf7+)* 15.Qd6+ Ke8 16.Qc7 Nd7 17.Nd6+ Ke7 18.Bc4 is miserable for Black.]
14…Qg6 15.Bd3 Qh6! Diagram



16.Ng5!

To avoid the exchange of queens, Charlie offers a piece. 16...g6
Of course, the N can't be taken, as black's Q would get trapped. But now it is a threat.
17.Kb1! Getting out of the latent pin on the diagonal, and now the knight really is en prise.
17...Rf8?
[The critical line was 17...fxg5 18.Qe5 Qf8 Otherwise black's Q is trapped by hxg5 next move. 19.Rhf1 Qg8 20.Qxg5+ Ke8 and now the computer finds 21.Rf6! with White having a strong continuing attack on the dark squares, probably starting with Rdf1. 21...Na6 22.Rdf1 Nc7 23.h5 gxh5 24.Qe5 Nd5 25.Rf7 Bd7 26.Rg7 etc.]
18.Qg3
[Charlie could also have played the thematic break 18.d5! For example: 18...cxd5 19.Qc5+ Kd7 20.Bb5+ Nc6 21.Nxe6 etc.]
18...fxg5 19.Qc7+ 19...Nd7 20.hxg5 Qg7
[The unnatural-looking move 20...Qxg5! would have been a more challenging defense. 21.Rxh7+ Rf7 22.Rdh1 Qf6 and black can play on.]
21.Rde1 White is obviously winning now -- black is playing without his queenside pieces. But Steve puts up a stiff fight, running his king to safety...
21...Kf7 22.Bc4 Kg8 23.Rxe6 Kh8 24.Rhe1
24...Qf7 25.Bb3?
Charlie has been playing great up until here, but this slow move is a slip that endangers the win. [25.Qh2! was winning, threatening Re7, and forcing 25...h5 and now 26.g4 will pry open black's king and win.]
25...Qf4!
[Steve, in desperate shape now for many moves, is defending well and here finds the best chance. Frank Berry had suggested black could get an edge with 25...Qf5 but the computer points out 26.Re8! and black is virtually in zugzwang. It gives 26...a5 27.g4 Qf2 *(27...Qxg5 28.Rxf8+ Nxf8 29.Re8* etc.*)* 28.R1e7 a4 29.Rxf8+ Nxf8 30.Qe5+ mates]
26.Qxf4 Rxf4 27.Re8+! Rf8 28.R8e7? [Unfortunately, in mutual time trouble both players make some mistakes here in the final stages. 28.R1e7! would have kept black tied up and threatens to win material with Be6. There is not much black could have done then... 28...b6 29.Be6 Rb8 30.Bxd7 Bxd7 31.Rxb8 Rxb8 32.Rxd7 a5 33.Rc7 with a winning R+P endgame.] 28...Rf2 29.Re8+= Nf8 [Steve was not satisfied with repeating the position and plays for a win, but it's too ambitious.] 30.Be6 [30.Rd8! threatening to double on the eight rank, wins.] 30...Bxe6 31.Rxa8 Rf7? [Better is 31...Kg7 saving the game 32.Rxa7 Rf7 etc.] 32.Rxe6! Now Charlie gives Steve no further chances. 32...Kg7 33.Rf6! Rxf6 34.gxf6+ Kf7 35.Rxa7 h5 36.Rxb7+ Kxf6 37.a4 1-0

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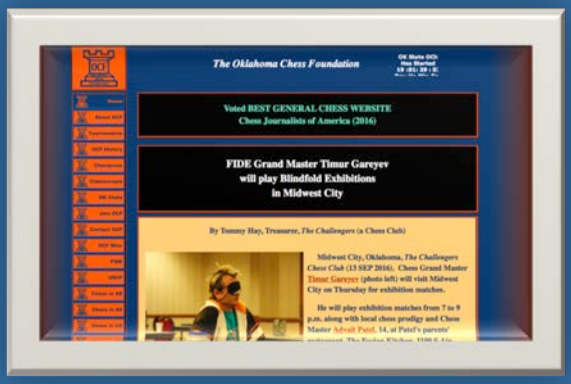
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FIDE Grand Master Timur Gareyev
will play Blindfold Exhibitions
in Midwest City

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Ciaran O'Hare has earned a grandmaster norm in correspondence chess in the ICCF, with a first place finish in the 8th Interzonal Team Tournament. (See crosstable). It's a rare achievement; the USA only has produced 11 such GMs in the ICCF. Ciaran would be 12th.

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION

Interzonal TT/8 Board 2, 8th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 2

					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Score
1	USA	O'Hare, Ciaran	2434	North America Pacific A		½	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	1^E	8
2	PER	Castro Salguero, Robert	2411	Latin America	½		½	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	1^E	6
3	USA	Miettinen, Kristo S.	2423	North America Pacific C	0	½		0	½	½	½	1	½	1	1^E	5.5
4	GER	Zeihser, Michael	2406	Europe D	½	½	1		0	½	½	½	½	½	1^E	5.5
5	FRA	LeBled, Pierre	2414	Europe B	½	½	½	1		½	½	½	½	½	½	5.5
6	USA	Biedermann, Thomas	2433	North America Pacific B	½	½	½	½	½		½	½	½	½	1	5.5
7	LAT	Auzinš, Maris	2402	Europe E	0	½	½	½	½	½		½	½	½	1^E	5
8	CZE	Bureš, Jiljí	2440	Europe A	0	0	0	½	½	½	½		1	½	1	4.5
9	CPV	Carapinha, Francisco	2349	Africa Asia A	0	½	½	½	½	½	½	0		½	1^E	4.5
10	ISR	Har-Even, Abir	2408	Europe C	0	½	0	½	½	½	½	½	½		1^E	4.5
11	TUN	Mer, Alain	2346	Africa Asia B	0^E	0^E	0^E	0^E	½	0	0^E	0	0^E	0^E		0.5

He already has the ICCF's Senior IM title, plus an Expert rating in OTB play. But since 2000 he has focused on correspondence. He is originally from Ireland, but we count him as an Okie!

In a three-part series of articles he wrote for Frank Berry's OCQ in 2011, he explained that in correspondence play, "Most blunders are avoided. Dramatic tactical shots and successful Kingside attacks are less common, and result from the slow build up of pressure as opposed to a violent unleashing of force. Games are often won by the meticulous conversion of a small endgame advantage."

Well, I must say … that's a bunch of baloney!

Why? Alex Relyea helped me download his games from this event and they are impressive tactical fights of the highest order!

Three of them are in the Games section, starting page 19.

ICCF play is not like the old days of postal chess. Matches are played via an Internet server. When you make a move it notifies your opponent by email and vice versa. This not only eliminates mail transit time delay, but the computer handles all the logistics. It is a smooth experience now, though games still last for months.

Ciaran says of the achievement, "It was a strange emotion when I won that last game. In these computer days it is an enormous effort to win high-level games. To win enough for a norm requires exactness and luck! I had spent many hours over the last two years hoping that the near impossible, a GM norm, seemed possible. … I felt exhausted when that last game ended." Check out the games!

2017 OCF TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

The OCF has announced the following schedule of traditional quality chess tournaments for 2017:

Date	Event	Type	Location
Mar-Aug	Pioneer Chess League Regular Season	Match	Statewide
Apr 29	Red River Shootout	Match	Davis
May 27-28	FRANK K BERRY MEMORIAL	5-SS	Tulsa
Sep 2-3	JERRY SPANN MEMORIAL	5-SS	OKC
Sep 4	Pioneer Chess League Finals Match	Match	OKC
Nov ?-?	STEVE WHARRY CHESS CLASSIC	5-SS	Tulsa
Dec 30	27th Holiday Open	4-SS	Stillwater

This is the lineup of events in the OCF's objective to support Oklahoma's heritage of quality chess. There are other events with classical time controls coming in 2017 also, which OCF will support, such as the Norman Chess Festivals put on the by Chess Club at OU. There are also one-day rapid tournaments by the Challengers Club in OKC, and other groups. Check the "Upcoming Tournaments" page here in the OCM for the latest information, and also check the USCF's calendar site (http://www.uschess.org/tlas/upcoming.php) For those of you within driving distance of Fort Smith, AR, they plan events of various sizes throughout the year, check here: https://www.facebook.com/WestarkChessClub/?ref=bookmarks

Note that the new FKB Memorial is replacing the traditional North American Open on the schedule, although it may be brought back some day. Details of each event will be announced later, and are still somewhat subject to change until then (i.e., the Wharry Classic might end up in Bartlesville instead of Tulsa).

As of this writing, some other known dates for regional traditional tournaments in 2017 are worth noting by area players for their 2017 plans:

Feb 16-20	Southwest Class Championship	Fort Worth TX
Mar 18-19	Arkansas Open	Fayetteville AR
Mar 24-26	Mid-America Open	St. Louis MO
Jul 21-23	Kansas Open	Wichita KS

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Oklahoma Chess Foundation

(Editor's Note — For fun, here is an experimental form of game annotations featuring only Internet images, quotes, and memes from popular culture. Let me know what you think. If you like it, we can do it again in the future. The normal annotations from this interesting game can be found in the online playable Games section of the OCF website.)

Buck, Joseph (1454) –
Buenger, Jeremiah (1745)
[B33]
71st OCF Open (5.14), 04.09.2016

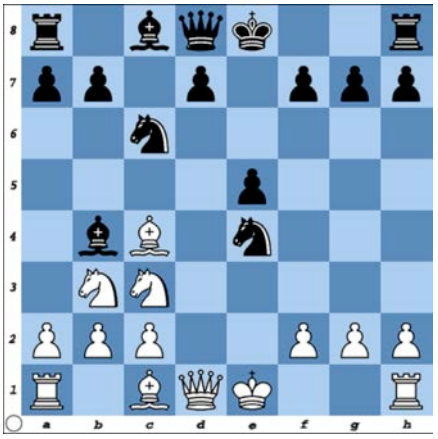
1.e4 c5
2.Nf3 Nc6

3.d4

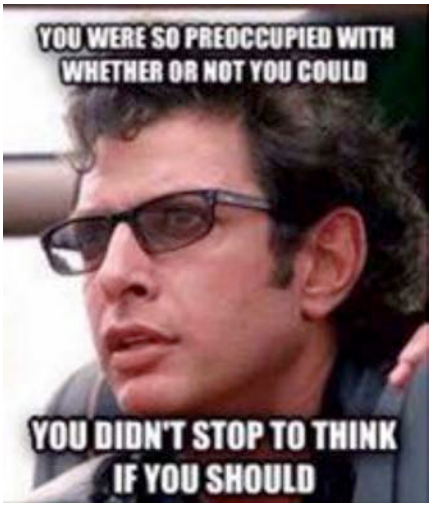
3... cxd4
4.Nxd4 Nf6
5.Nc3 e5

6.Nb3!?

6... Bb4
7.Bc4 Nxe4!

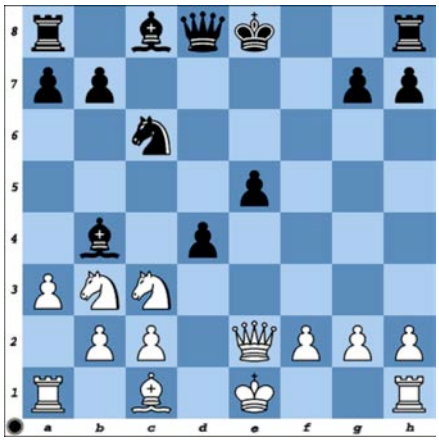


8.Bxf7+



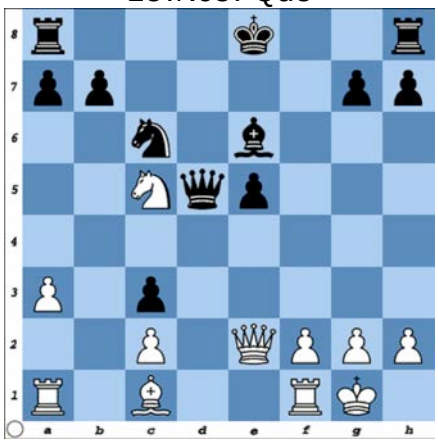
8... Kxf7
9.Qd5+ Ke8

10.Qxe4 d5!
11.Qe2 d4
12.a3

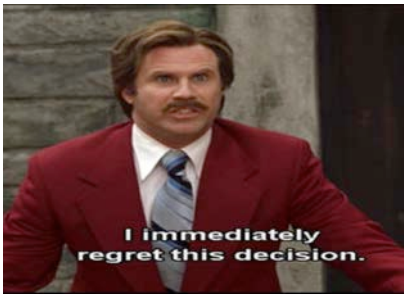


12…Bxc3+?

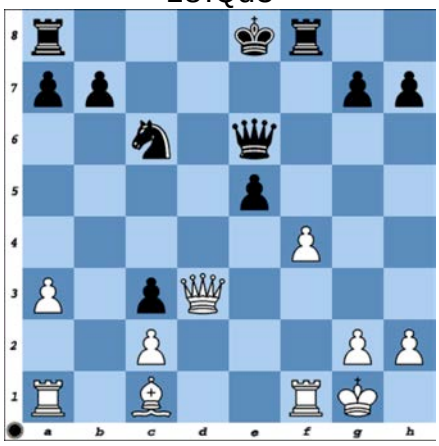
13.bxc3 dxc3
14.0-0 Be6?!
15.Nc5! Qd5



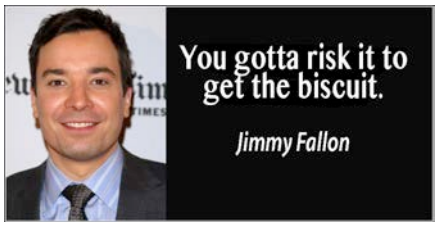
16.Nxe6?



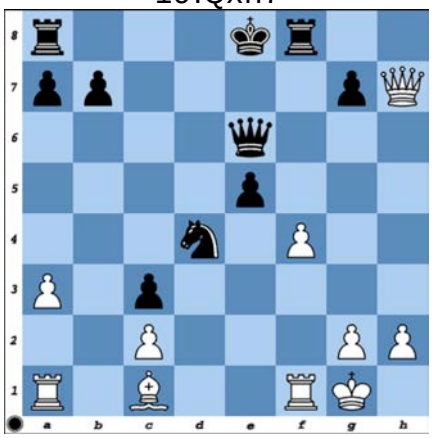
16… Qxe6
17.f4 Rf8
18.Qd3



18…Nd4 !?

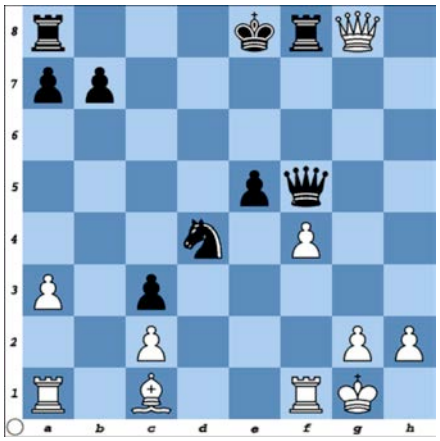


19.Qxh7



19…Qf5

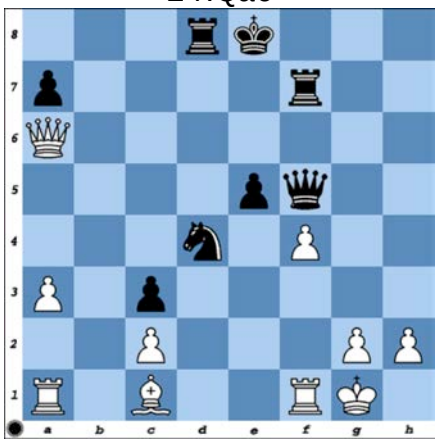
20.Qxg7 Rf7
21.Qg8+ Rf8



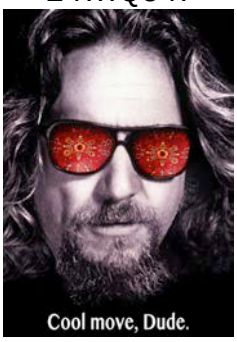
22.Qd5 !

22… Rd8!
23.Qxb7

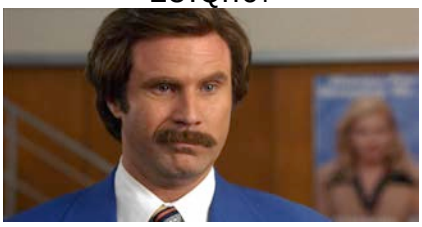
23… Rf7
24.Qa6



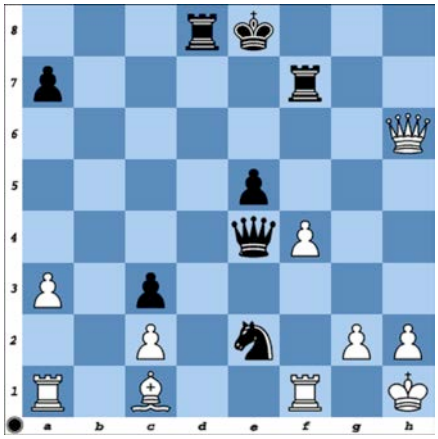
24…Qe4!



25.Qh6?

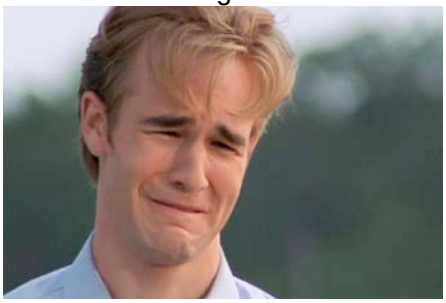


25…Ne2+
26.Kh1

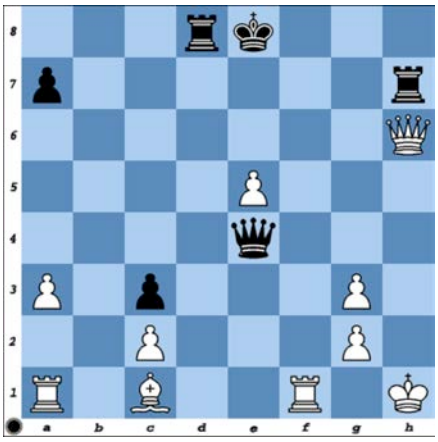


26… Ng3+!

27.hxg3 Rh7

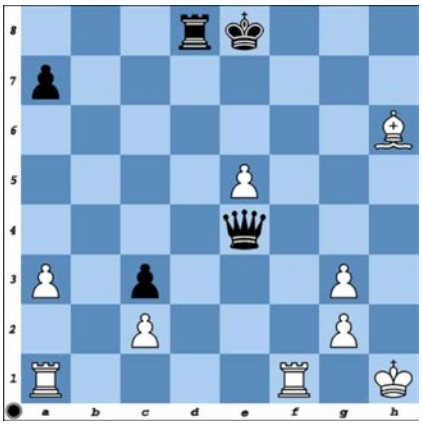


28.fxe5



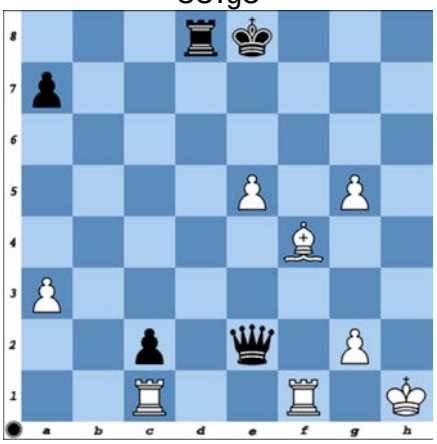
28 ... Rxh6+

29.Bxh6



29 ...Qxc2

30.Rac1 Qd3
31.Bf4 c2
32.g4 Qe2
33.g5



33... Rd1

34.Kh2 Rxf1 0-1

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

For More Tournament Info Visit the USCF Tournament Site:
www.uschess.org/tlas/upcoming.php

Dec 31 2016 — 26th OCF Holiday Open — Stillwater OK

4-SS, G/50 + 15 spm. (Dual rated) Hwy Express Inn & Suites, 2313 West 6th Ave (Hwy-51), Stillwater OK 74074. 1-405-372-2425. HR: 1b-$40, 2b-$50, suite-$60. Free Parking. $$100-1st, other $ per entries. REG: 9-9:45 AM. RDS: 10-12:30-3-5:30 PM. EF: $20. (1) half pt bye Rds 1 2 or 3. LS W. Jim Berry P O Box 351 Stillwater, OK 74076. Info email Jim Berry: mailto:JaBerrycg@aol.com

Jan 28-29 2017 — 3rd Norman Chess Festival — Norman OK

5-SS; G/90 + 30, 3 sections. OU Student Union. More Info: http://oklahoma.orgsync.com/org/chess/home

Feb 11 2017 — 4th "Do or Do Not" Quads — Norman OK

3-RR Quads; G/60 + 30. OU Student Union. More Info: http://oklahoma.orgsync.com/org/chess/home

Feb 16-20 2017 — Southwest Class Championships — Fort Worth TX

9SS (Master Section), 7SS (other sections). $30,000 total prize fund. DFW Airport Marriott South, 4151 Centreport Blvd., Fort Worth, TX. More info: http://www.uschess.org/tlas/upcoming.php?STATE=TX

Mar 1 2017 — Pioneer Chess League Season Begins — OK

Pre-season team signups begin January 1. See Article last issue. More info on the OCF website.

Mar 18-19 2017 — Arkansas Open — Fayetteville AR

5-SS; G/90 + 30, Mount Sequoyah Retreat Center, 150 N. Skyline Dr., Fayetteville AR. Two Sections: ($$ b/40) Open: $250-150; U1800-$120; Reserve: (U-1600) $150-100; U-1300-$100; Upset-$50; EF: Open $45; Reserve $35 (deduct $5 from either if postmarked by Mar. 13). TD: Les Kline, 801 N. Rush Dr., Fayetteville AR 72701; cl_kline@sbcglobal.net; (479) 595-5720. Reg. 8:15-9:15 AM Sat.; Rds. 9:30-2-6:30; Sun. 9-1:15. ACA/OSA; USCF required. Lodging: Cabin rooms $80 (no tax) at Mt. Sequoyah Retreat Center; 800-760-8126 (toll free), M-F 9am-5pm.

Mar 25 2017 — 5th "Do or Do Not" Quads — Norman OK

3-RR Quads; G/60 + 30. OU Student Union. More Info: http://oklahoma.orgsync.com/org/chess/home

Apr 22 2017 — 6th "Do or Do Not" Quads — Norman OK

3-RR Quads; G/60 + 30. OU Student Union. More Info: http://oklahoma.orgsync.com/org/chess/home

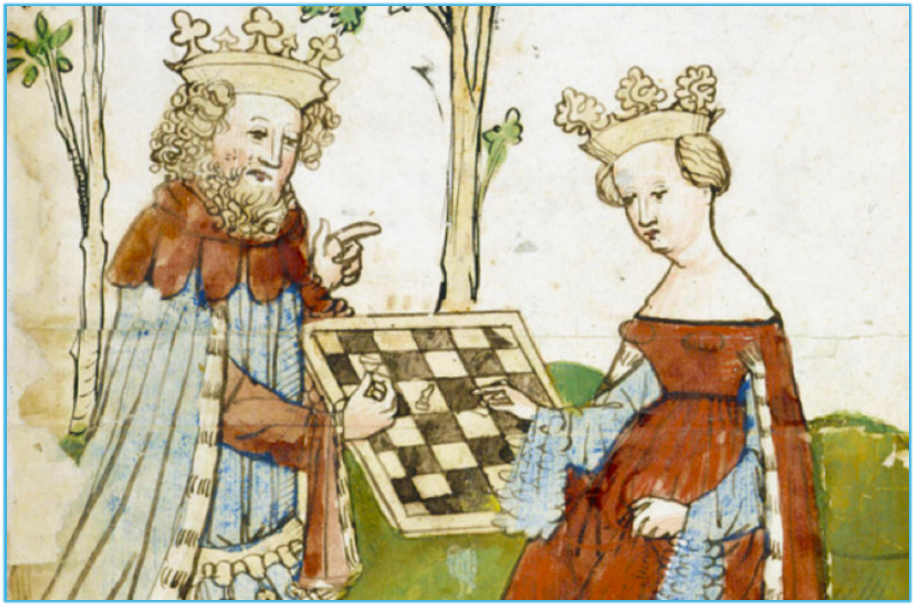
Apr 29 2017 — 15th Red River Shootout — Davis OK

This is the REAL Red River Shootout, the annual team match between the most fanatical chess players in Oklahoma and Texas. 2 games with same opponent. More details at http://rrsochess.net/rrso_home.html#RRSO including the history of the event, team captains, and more.

The Pawn That Discovered America

by Istvan Szabad

If I said that the discovery of America in 1492 depended on the move of one little chess pawn, you might be a bit skeptical. But I have to tell you: this is true!



We know from history that chess was very popular in Spain after the Moors (Muslim tribes from Northwest Africa) crossed the Strait of Gibraltar in the eighth century and invaded the southern part of the Spanish territory. Chess was then still in its antique Arabic form, much slower paced than the modern game, with the pieces moving in more limited ways. More info on the ancient game is at this link (and I plan perhaps to write more about it in the future):
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shatranj#/media/File:Shatranj.jpg

Over time, the Spaniards tried to speed up the game, so they modified some rules. Eventually the changes spread throughout Europe and became what we use in today's chess.

By the late 1400s the "new" chess game had become very popular especially in the high society (nobles and the royal court), despite historic and often violent changes taking place in Spain at the time including such things as the infamous Inquisition and the "Reconquista" of the country from the Moors. The influential rulers King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella were reportedly big chess fans and zealous players.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabella_I_of_Castile

In these cruel and turbulent times, Isabella and Ferdinand also turned their attention to other matters, among them the famous expedition proposed by Columbus to sail west into the uncharted Atlantic with the controversial idea that the world was round and he would find a shorter route to India by going west (2000 miles according to him). He had first come to the Spanish monarchs for patronage in 1485 or 1486 and then in 1491. Both times his request was denied, as it was again in December 1491.

The story of how chess entered into the decision to sponsor Columbus has come down to us through letters written by the warrior Hernando de Pulgar early in 1492 to a friend at the court of Ferdinand and Isabella. The source is a French translation found in the October 15, 1845, issue of *Le Palamede*, the first European journal devoted to chess.

If these letters can be believed, Columbus would not have received Spanish backing to "sail the ocean blue" were it not for an incident during a chess match that put King Ferdinand in a happy and receptive mood for the project. Here is the story translated from the letters in French:

From Hernando de Pulgar's letter, 1492:

"King Ferdinand, as you know, delights in playing chess. Like all serious players, he attaches the greatest importance to winning the match.

Yesterday during the heat of the day, instead of taking his siesta, he retired to the queen's apartments and began a match with Fonseca, one of his usual victims. Some of us observed the combat as arbiters. The Count of Tendilla, Ponce de Leon, and Gonsalvo of Cordoba were present. Several maids of honor seated around a frame were finishing a magnificent piece of embroidery destined for Our Lady del Pilar (statue of the Virgin standing on a pillar). The King, absorbed in the game, was giving poor Fonseca a hard time.

At that moment, the hangings were raised, and a page announced the queen's confessor. After the holy prelate had presented his respect to the king, he approached the queen and asked her what decision had been made regarding the Genoese Cristobal Colon (the Spanish name for the explorer who in English is known as Christopher Columbus). The ensuing discussion focused on Colon's insistence that he be granted the titles of admiral and viceroy—titles that Lady Beatriz and others considered extravagant for an upstart sailor with questionable views about the shape of the earth. The queen, however, took a different view.

"My Lord," she said, "shall we not give this intrepid man the title he is asking for? There is no inconvenience, I think, in granting it to him for the country he intends to discover. If he shows the way to a new world, he will certainly have merited this honor."

"We'll think about it," said Ferdinand, passing his hand across his brow. In spite of himself, he was no longer giving the game all his attention. Fonseca cleverly profited from the king's distraction and soon gained the upper hand.

"Your Highness's queen has acted like the rash navigators," Fonseca said. "She has come too close to the abyss, and the black hand (black pieces) is about to seize her. Your queen is forced."

"The Devil take the Genoese!" the king exclaimed. "He's going to make me lose a splendid match."

On the verge of losing his queen, King Ferdinand became very annoyed. Fonseca openly rejoiced, considering the game already won. But they had not counted on a strategy seen by the letter writer, Pulgar, who communicated to Queen Isabella. "If White doesn't make any mistakes,

Fonseca is dead in four moves."

Isabella drew near the king. She leaned on his shoulder and held back his arm at the very moment when, after having hesitated for a long time, he raised his hand to place his rook in the fifth square. ***"My Lord," she said, "I think you have won."***

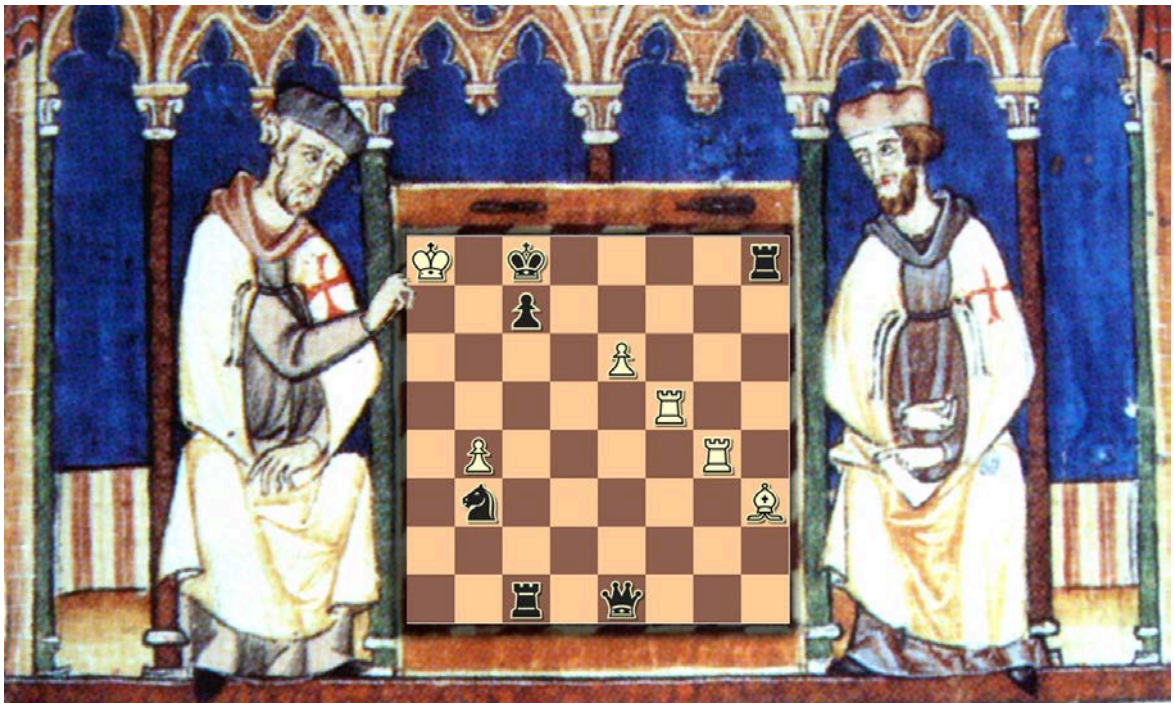
"I hope so," Ferdinand answered. He stopped and began to reflect again. His eyes searched out mine, and as I indicated with my eyes that he had indeed won, he began to calculate more. Then a smile crossed his lips and his brow lit up with sublime pleasure."Fonseca, you are very sick."

"It seems to me," the queen said quickly, "that there would be no risk in granting the Genoese the title he wants."

"After all," Ferdinand added, "no great harm can come from appointing him Admiral of the seas he will navigate." Then the queen called one of her pages. "Alonzo, mount your horse. Hurry to overtake Cristobal Colon, who is on the road to Palos, and tell him that we appoint him Admiral of the Ocean."

Pulgar's letter ends with this comment: "If Cristobal Colon discovers a new world, as I hope he will, it will have been the result of a pawn pushed at the right moment."

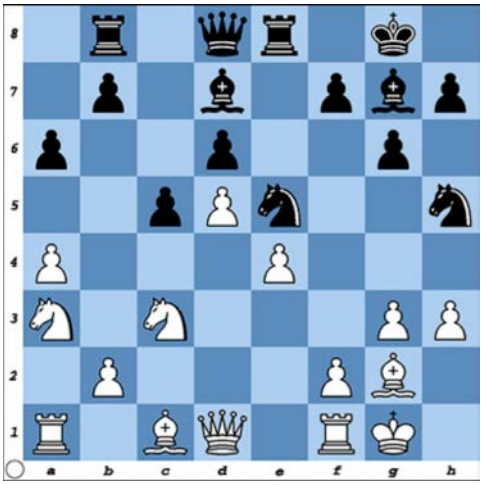
The position on the board that had vexed King Ferdinand was this:



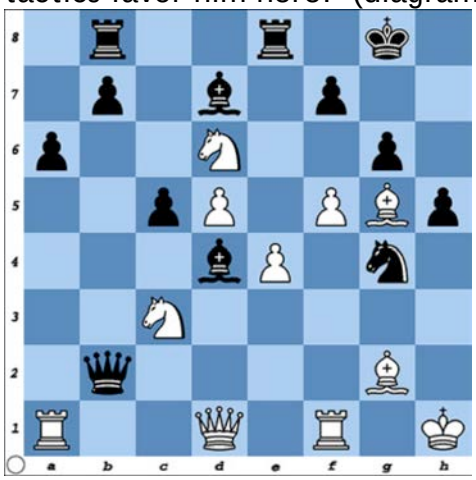
King Ferdinand - Fonseca, Spain, 1492. White to move and win. (See solution page 20)

Philidor said the pawn is the "spirit of chess." But as we just saw, perhaps it is the "spirit of the discovery" too, for Columbus bumped into the New World and began the golden age of exploration that eventually led to America, and then to Oklahoma, and to you and me here pushing pawns of our own. Just like the explorers of history, we boldly sail out into the ocean of chess.

O'Hare, Ciaran (2434) - Miettinen, Kristo S (2423)
Interzonal TT/8 ICCF, 31.03.2015
[TB]
In this impressive correspondence game O'Hare begins with cutting edge theory and then ranges across the board.
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.g3 c5 4.d5 d6 5.Nc3 exd5 6.cxd5 g6 7.Bg2 Bg7 8.Nf3 0-0 9.0-0 Re8 10.Nd2 a6 11.a4 Nbd7 12.h3 Rb8 13.Nc4 Ne5 14.Na3 Nh5 15.e4 Bd7 diagram



[If all this seems familiar to you, it is because of the famous game Korchnoi-Kasparov from the 1982 Olympiad, the first meeting of these two greats, in which Kasparov blazed the trail in this sharp variation of the Benoni by sacrificing a piece on the kingside. Check out the game and then compare. 15...Rf8 16.Kh2 f5 17.f4 b5 18.axb5 axb5 19.Naxb5 fxe4 20.Bxe4 Bd7 21.Qe2 Qb6 22.Na3 Rbe8 23.Bd2 Qxb2 24.fxe5 Bxe5 25.Nc4 Nxg3 26.Rxf8+ Rxf8 27.Qe1 Nxe4+ 28.Kg2 Qc2 29.Nxe5 Rf2+ 30.Qxf2 Nxf2 31.Ra2 Qf5 32.Nxd7 Nd3 33.Bh6 Qxd7 34.Ra8+ Kf7 35.Rh8 Kf6 36.Kf3 Qxh3+ 0-1 Kortschnoj,V (2665)-Kasparov,G (2595)/Luzern 1982. Since then, there has been a lot of GM practice with this line, and now they play 15...Bd7 here more commonly than Kasparov's rook move. And the games tend to be sharp, as here...]
16.a5 Qxa5 17.g4 Nf6 18.f4 Nexg4 19.hxg4 Nxg4
Yes, this is all book so far...
20.f5 h5 21.Bg5 b5
[Finally a new move, according to my database, although it is probably far less extensive than Ciaran's. More common here is the queen encroachment with 21...Qb4 as for example in this game: 22.f6 Bh8 23.Qd2 Qd4+ 24.Qxd4 cxd4 25.Ne2 Re5 26.Bh4 Ne3 27.Nxd4 Nxg2 28.Kxg2 Rxe4 29.Nf3 Bf5 30.Rac1 Rbe8 31.Nc4 Rg4+ 32.Kf2 Bd3 33.Ne3 Bxf1 34.Nxg4 hxg4 35.Kxf1 gxf3 36.Rc7 Re5 37.Rc8+ Kh7 38.Rf8 g5 39.Rxf7+ Kg6 40.Rf8 Bxf6 41.Bg3 0-1 Sasikiran,K (2689)-Anand,V (2817)/Bastia 2011]
22.Nc4 Qb4 23.Nxd6 Bd4+ 24.Kh1 Qxb2
Black now has three connected passers for the piece, but Ciaran has discovered the tactics favor him here: (diagram)

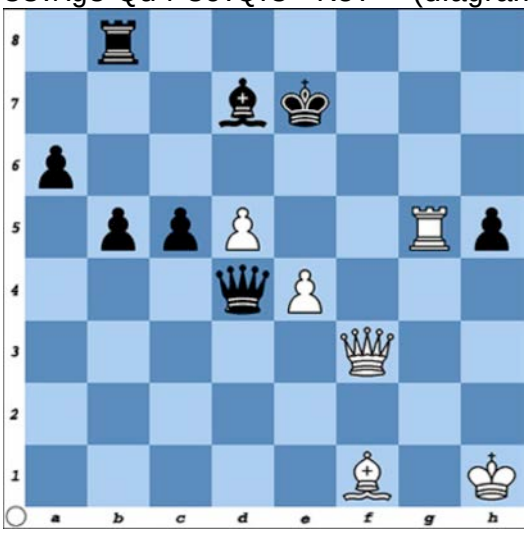


25.Ra2! Qxc3 26.Rf3 Be3 27.fxg6 fxg6 28.Bxe3 Nxe3 29.Qg1 Qe5 30.Qxe3 [30.Nxe8 Ng4!=] 30...Qxd6 31.Raf2
There are seven passed pawns now in play, five of them black! But White's are in the

Solution to Ferdinand's Discovery Puzzle:

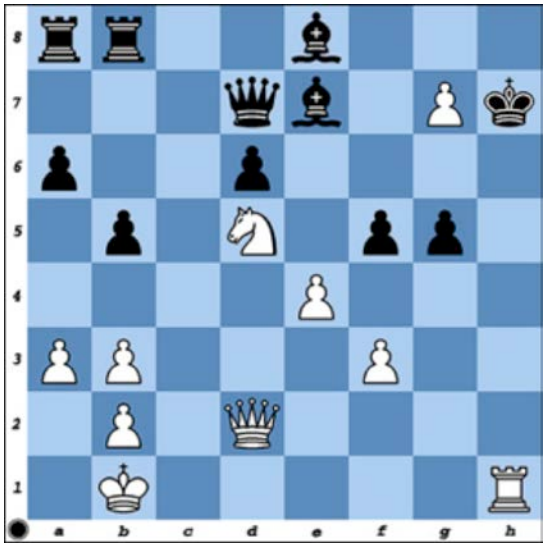
The pawn "discovers" check and mate after: 1.Rg8+, Rxg8 2. Rf8+, Rxf8 3. e7+

center plus he now has a big attack down the f-file!
31...Qe5
[31...Rf8 maybe? 32. e5 would be the dangerous reply, but black gets to trade a pair of rooks.]
32.Rf6 Re7 33.Rxg6+ Rg7 34.Rff6 Qa1+ Every move black is finding the only defense, according to my computer, which I guess is what happens in correspondence chess. But how long can he keep that up? 35.Bf1 Rxg6 36.Rxg6+ Kf7 37.Rg1 Qe5 38.Rg5 Qd4 39.Qf3+ Ke7 (diagram)



40.Qg3! Qf6
[My computer says this is an error and the only move was 40...Rb6 but after 41.Bg2 (threat: e4-e5) if you let it run for awhile it eventually changes its circuits and admits white has winning chances. It seems even with computer help it's very hard to hold this position for black; his king is just too open, and soon Ciaran breaks through...]
41.Be2 Rf8 42.e5 Qf4 43.Rg7+ Kd8 44.e6 Qxg3 45.e7+ Kc7 46.exf8Q Qe1+ 47.Bf1 Qe4+ 48.Kg1 Qd4+ 49.Kg2 Qxd5+ 50.Qf3 Qe5 51.Qg3 Qxg3+ 52.Kxg3
So black has bailed out to an ending with 4 pawns for a rook, but it isn't enough here. White has a bishop to help control the pawns.
52...Kd6 53.Rg6+ Kd5 54.Rxa6 c4 55.Kf4 Kc5 56.Ra7 Be6 57.Ke3 Kb4 58.Kd4 h4 59.Re7 Bf5 60.Re3 Bg4 61.Re4 Bd1 62.Rxh4 Bc2 63.Rh8 Bf5 64.Bh3 Bb1 65.Bd7 c3 66.Rc8 c2 67.Rc3 Awesome game. 1-0

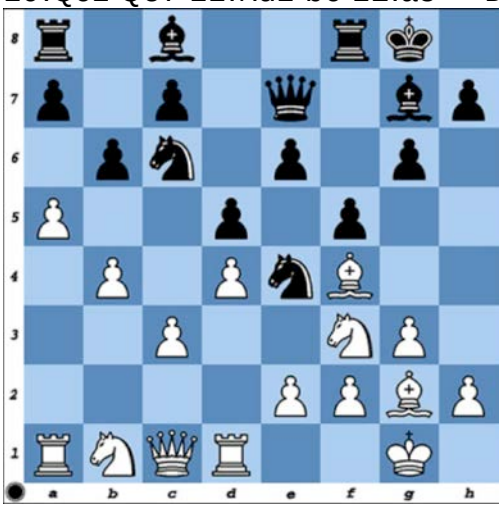
LeBled,Pierre (2414) - O'Hare,Ciaran (2434)
Interzonal TT/8 ICCF, 31.03.2015
[TB]
Another correspondence slugfest!
1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bg5 Nbd7 7.Bc4 Qb6
A sharp line of the Najdorf.
8.Bb3 e6 9.Qd2 Be7 10.0-0-0 Nc5 11.f3 Qc7 12.g4 b5 13.h4 Bd7 14.Kb1 0-0 15.a3 Rfb8 16.Bxf6 Bxf6 17.g5 Be7 18.h5 Nxb3 [Maybe this was an attempt to improve an another game that went 18...a5 19.g6 b4 20.h6 fxg6 21.hxg7 Nxb3 22.Qh6 Kf7 23.Qf4+ Bf6 24.Rxh7 1-0 (51) Gomez Garrido,C (2495)-Sardana,R (2363) 2014]
19.cxb3 Be8!?
A deep defensive idea that is rather unique to my eye. Black is protecting the g6 square, and as is seen later the B can come out on the short diagonal for defensive variations.
20.Nf5
[20.g6 is what my computer likes better.] 20...exf5 21.h6 f6!? Involving the bishops in defense. 22.Nd5 Qd7 23.hxg7 fxg5 24.Rxh7! Kxh7 25.Rh1+ Diagram



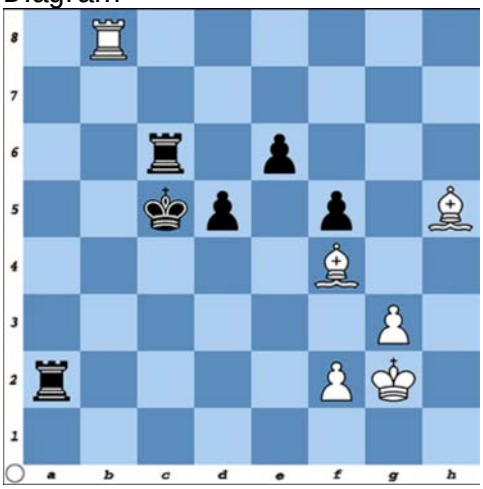
25...Bh5!
[The only move, allowing the black rooks to control the back rank. Otherwise white penetrates with Qd4 and has a mating attack, for example: 25...Kxg7 26.Qd4+ Kg6 27.Qh8 etc]
26.Rxh5+ Kxg7 27.Nxe7 Qxe7 28.Rxg5+ Kf8 29.Rxf5+ Ke8 Black is up a rook, but his king is being hunted and his rooks are huddled in

the corner. Can Ciaran activate them before White can win material?
30.Qd5 Rc8 31.e5 Ra7 32.exd6 Qg7 33.Rg5 Qh7+ 34.Ka2 Kd8 35.Rg8+ Kd7 36.Rg1 Rc6 37.Qe5 White's going to win the Q for a R, but will it be enough to win the game? 37...Ra8 38.Rg7+ Qxg7 39.Qxg7+ Kxd6 40.f4 Rac8 41.a4 [41.f5 The pawn can't queen by itself, i.e. 41...R8c7 42.Qd4+ Ke7 So white tries to get another passed pawn. However, Ciaran is able to set up an impenetrable barrier along the 6th rank:] 41...bxa4 42.bxa4 Ke6 43.b4 Rd8 44.Qg6+ Kd7 45.Qf7+ Kc8 46.Qf5+ Kc7 47.Kb3 Rdd6 48.b5 axb5 49.axb5 Rb6 50.Kb4 Rh6 Draw

O'Hare,Ciaran (2434) - Har-Even,Abir (2408)
Interzonal TT/8 ICCF, 31.03.2015
[TB]
1.d4 f5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.0-0 0-0 6.b4 Nc6 7.c3 Ne4 8.a4 d5 9.Bf4 e6 10.Qc1 Qe7 11.Rd1 b6 12.a5 Diagram



12...Ba6?!
Ciaran's opponent tries an unbalancing but risky move, because it allows tactics that lead directly to a position of R+P vs two pieces, but judging which side is going to be better is not so easy. It seems Ciaran's judgment is superior, since we now see him choosing to force this variation, and then proceeding to smoothly win the resulting endgame... 13.axb6 axb6 14.Rxa6! Rxa6 15.b5 Ra2 16.bxc6 Rxe2 17.c4! Qb4 (Maybe the opponent had overlooked that 17...Rxf2 would leave the rook trapped after 18. Nbd2.)
18.Qa3 Qb2 19.Qxb2 Rxb2 20.Nbd2 h6 21.h4 b5 22.cxb5 Rxb5 23.Bh3 Rb6 24.Rc1 Nxd2 25.Nxd2 Bxd4 26.Nf3 Bb2 27.Bxc7 Rb3 28.Rb1 Rxf3 29.Rxb2 Rc3 30.Bf4 g5 31.hxg5 hxg5 32.Bxg5
The two bishops plan to outmaneuver the Rook, and black's extra pawn is not mobile enough to be a threat.
Rxc6 33.Bg2 Kf7 34.Bf3 Kg6 35.Bf4 Rh8 36.Rb1 Kf6 37.Re1 Ra8 38.Kg2 Ra2 39.Bd1 Ra7 40.Be5+ Ke7 41.Rh1 Ra2 42.Rh7+ Kd8 43.Bh5 Rcc2 44.Bd4 Kc8 45.Re7 Rc4 46.Bb6 Rc6 47.Be3 Kd8 48.Rh7 Kc8 49.Rh8+ Kc7 50.Bf4+ Kb6 51.Rb8+ Kc5 Diagram



52.Be8! On an open board, the "Killer Bs" coordinate to reach far more squares than the rook can. Stuck defending the weak e-pawn, the black rooks are further limited. So it isn't surprising that pretty tactics soon spring into play in white's favor. Here, black can't keep his pawns intact because of the nice combo that Ciaran finds.
52...Rca6 53.Bd7 Targeting e6.
53...Kd4
[If 53...Ra1 then 54.Bc8 Rc6 55.Bb7 Rb6 56.Be3+ d4 57.Rc8+ Kb5 58.Bxd4 forks with the dark-square bishop!]
54.Re8 Re2
This time, it is the light-square bishop that forks the rooks! It was either this or lose the e-pawn, which would have been hopeless.

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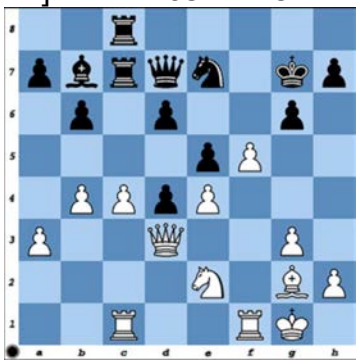
55.Bb5 Rea2 56.Bxa6 Rxa6
White still needs to be careful. But he is up to the task…
57.Re7 Rc6 58.Rc7 Ra6 59.Ra7 Rc6 60.Ra1 Ke4 61.Re1+ Kd3 62.Rd1+ Ke2 63.Rd2+ Ke1 64.Kf3 Rc3+ 65.Be3 Rb3 66.Rc2 Rb1 67.Rc1+ Rxc1 68.Bxc1 e5 69.Bg5 d4 70.Bf6 e4+ 71.Kf4 d3 72.Bd4! 1-0

Relyea,Alex (2108) - Ahonen,Markku [C01]
French Exchange Thematic 01.03.2015
[Notes by Alex Relyea]
(Former Okie Alex Relyea, who lives in New Hampshire now, is active in organizing tournaments and playing correspondence games. He sends us this fine effort. – TB)
1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 exd5 Thematic moves. 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Bb4 6.Bd3 0-0 7.Nge2 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Nbd7 9.Bb3 Nb6 10.0-0 Re8 11.Nf4 a5 12.Nh5 Nxh5 13.Qxh5 Be6 14.d5 g6 15.dxe6!? Anyway! A fine queen sac. 15...gxh5 16.exf7+ Kg7 17.fxe8Q Qxe8 18.Bf4- White has full compensation, but is there any more? 18...Bd6 19.Rae1 Qd7 20.Be5+ Bxe5 21.Rxe5 Re8 22.Rxa5 h4 23.h3 Qd2 24.Rf5 Kg6 25.g4 Re7 26.Kg2 Qxb2 27.Rf3 h5 And now the Queen is awkward. 28.Rb1 Qd2 29.Rd1 Qb2 30.Rd8 hxg4 31.hxg4 Kh7 32.Rh3 Qc1 The Queen returns to play, but now White has a strong attack. 33.Rxh4+ Kg6 34.Rh3 c6 35.Rf3 Nd5 36.Nxd5 cxd5 37.Bxd5 Kh7 38.Bg8+ Kg6 39.Bb3 Qc7 40.Rg8+ Rg7 41.Bf7+ Winning the Queen back with interest. 41...Qxf7 [41...Kh7?? 42.Rh3#] 42.Rxf7 Rxg8 [42...Kxf7 43.Rxg7+ Kxg7 is also a trivial win] 43.Rxb7 1-0

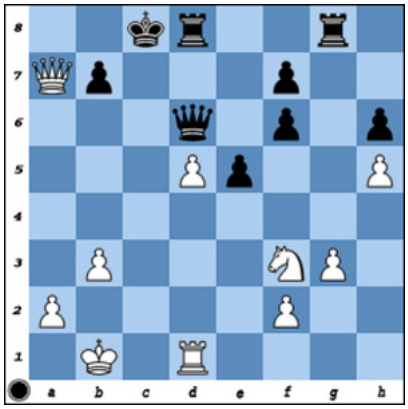
Patel, Advait (2398) - Liang, Awonder (2477)
[B51] North America Junior Open 2016, 24.09.2016
The young phenom from Midwest City continues his advancement. Here he takes apart another future GM in a tactical fencing match: 1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+ Nd7 4.0-0 a6 5.Bd3 Ngf6 6.Re1 e6 7.c3 Be7 8.Bc2 b5 9.d4 Bb7 10.Nbd2 Qc7 11.e5 dxe5 12.dxe5 Nd5 13.Ne4 Rd8 14.Bg5 0-0 15.Ng3 g6 16.Qc1 f6 17.exf6 Bxf6 18.Rxe6 Bxg5 19.Qxg5 Rxf3 20.Bxg6 Rxg3 21.fxg3 N7f6 22.Rxf6 Nxf6 23.Be4+ Kf7 24.Rf1 Rd6 25.Qe5 Qe7 26.Qxe7+ Kxe7 27.Bxb7 Rd2 28.Rb1 a5 29.Bf3 b4 30.cxb4 axb4 31.Re1+ Kf7 32.Re2 Rd1+ 33.Kf2 Ra1 34.b3 Rc1 35.g4 h6 36.Kg3 Rc3 37.Kf4 Kg6 38.Re6 Kf7 39.Rc6 Ke7 40.Kf5 Ng8 41.Rg6 Kf8 42.Ra6 Rd3 43.Kg6 Rd8 44.Ra8 Rxa8 45.Bxa8 Ke7 46.Kg7 Nf6 47.Bf3 Ke6 48.Kxh6 Nd7 49.g5 Ne5 50.g6 Kf6 51.Be4 Ng4+ 52.Kh7 Ke5 53.Bb1 1-0

Smith,Ken <TX NM> (2214) - Wharry,Steve (2000) [A36]
1st Nat Bank Op Ardmore, 07.04.1990
[Notes by Wharry (and TB)]
1.e4 c5 2.g3 I had expected the Smith-Morra Gambit. [Smith was famous for popularizing the gambit with 2. d4 cxd4 3. c3 in books and magazines. --TB] 2...g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.c4 The closed symmetrical variation of the English without the knights on c3 and c6. White's last play allows Black to control d4 while securing d5. 4...Nc6 5.Ne2 e6 6.0-0 Nge7 7.Nbc3 0-0 8.d3 d6 9.Rb1 Rb8 I wanted to get my rook off this long diagonal. 10.a3 b6 11.b4 Bb7 12.Be3 Nd4 13.Qd2 f5!? 14.Bh6 Qd7 15.Nxd4?! [This is a case of a higher-rated player taking some calculated risk, but better was 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.f4 In this case White has a knight that can recapture on e4 if black releases the tension there. --TB] 15...cxd4 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Ne2 e5 18.f4 fxe4! 19.dxe4 Rbc8 [Steve is effectively putting pressure now on both c4 and e4. -- TB] 20.Rbc1 Rc7 21.Qd3 [Better is 21.f5. Or 21.Nxd4 exd4 22.Qxd4+ Kg8 and White can build up pressure against the exposed Black king. 23.Rfd1 Unclear. [I can't agree with either of these two suggestions from Steve. White should play 21.fxe5 and seek relief with exchanges. But he hopes for more -- TB] 21...Rfc8 22.f5 Diagram



22...Ng8! Not only does the knight get out of the way of the pawn fork, it also prevents the pawn push. 23.g4 g5 24.h4 h6 25.hxg5 hxg5 26.Qd2 Kf8! [26...Kf6 27.Ng3 Qh7 28.Nh5+É; 26...Kh6 27.Rf3!] 27.Qxg5 Qg7 28.Qxg7+? [28.Qh4 Qh6 *(28...Nf6 29.Bf3?* Wharry thought that White's two connected passed pawns would win from here but overlooks: *29...Bxe4)* 29.Qxh6+ Nxh6=] 28...Rxg7 Now Black is okay versus White's pawns. [Typical understatement from Steve! Black is winning back his pawn and White will be left with static weaknesses he can't defend. -- TB] **29.Rf2 Nf6** White will soon be down two pawns and Black will have connected passed pawns. Black would be able to force several exchanges of pieces to show a won end game. 30.Bf3 Nxg4 31.Rg2 Ne3 32.Rxg7 Kxg7 33.Kf2 Nxc4 This represented my first win against a master and it made my tournament. In fact, I ended up doing so well in this tournament that I made Expert for the 2nd time. 0-1

Gufeld,Eduard <GM> (2540) - Wharry,Steve (1900)
[B19] 1st GM Gufeld Simul Stwtr, 12.02.2000
[Notes by F. Berry and E. Gufeld]
Notes here are by Gufeld prepared for the old OCQ by Frank Berry, with a few new notes by me. - TB
1.e4 c6 **2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 dxe4 4.Nxe4 Bf5 5.Ng3 Bg6 6.Nf3 Nd7** A Caro-Kann one of many played against the GM in this Simul. **7.h4 h6 8.h5 Bh7 9.Bd3 Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Qc7 11.Rh4 e6 12.Bf4 Bd6 13.Bxd6 Qxd6 14.0-0-0 0-0-0 15.Ne4 Qc7 16.Qa3 Kb8 17.Kb1 Ngf6 18.Nxf6 gxf6 19.Qe7 Rhf8 20.c4 Rde8 21.Qa3 Nb6 22.b3 Rg8 23.g3** Nc8= 24.d5? [Better is 24.Qc1! Gufeld 24...Nd6 25.Rhh1 Nf5 26.Nh4 Slight edge for White.] 24...Rd8? [Better is 24...exd5! 25.cxd5 cxd5 26.Rxd5 *(26.Rhd4 Re2 27.Rc1 Qd7)* 26...Qc3]



25.Rhd4 cxd5 26.cxd5 e5 27.Rc4 Qd6 28.Rxc8+!? Kxc8 29.Qxa7
Diagram

29...Qb4! "Only move." (Gufeld) [29...Qb8?! Gufeld 30.Rc1+ Kd7 31.Qb6] 30.Nd2 [30.Rc1+ Kd7 31.Rc4 Qb5.] 30...Kd7! Gufeld 31.Nc4 Ke8 32.Qe3 Rg4 [32...b5] 33.Qe2 Rg8 34.d6 He broke from his leash!
34...Kf8?
[34...b5 would have forced the GM to find perpetual check after 35.Nxe5 fxe5 36.Qxe5+ Kf8 37.Qe7+ Kg7= FKB]
35.Qf3 Kg7 36.Qg4+ **Kh7= 37.Qf5+ Kg7 38.f4** [TB - Gufeld thought this position was equal, but my computer now says he missed winning chances with 38.d7 menacing Rd6. Then if 38...Qe7 39.Nd6 Rxd7 40.Ne8+!!] **38...b5 39.Nxe5 Rxd6 40.Qg4+ Kh7 41.Qf5+ Draw**